Fiber Optic Mass Flow Gauge for Liquid Cryogenic Fuel Facilities Monitoring and Control, Phase I



Completed Technology Project (2007 - 2007)

Project Introduction

This SBIR Phase I proposal describes a fiber optic mass flow gauge that will aid in managing liquid hydrogen and oxygen fuel storage and transport. The increasing use of hydrogen as a fuel places the safety of facilities and personnel at the forefront of concern, making an explosion proof fiber optic system a desirable option. Further, the actual available fuel can depart significantly from the expected quantity due to variable boil-off and leak rates and inaccurate measurements. Measurement accuracy can be complicated by low gravity, stratification of the liquid density and temperature, the presence of a gas phase, the wetting of tank surfaces by the liquid and the lack of suitable sensors and instruments. The Phase II objective is to deliver a prototype that will withstand the high pressures and flow rates at liquid hydrogen and oxygen temperatures demanded by rocket propulsion systems.

Primary U.S. Work Locations and Key Partners



Organizations Performing Work	Role	Туре	Location
★Stennis Space Center(SSC)	Lead Organization	NASA Center	Stennis Space Center, Mississippi
Lake Shore Cryotronics, Inc.	Supporting Organization	Industry	Westerville, Ohio



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Organizational Responsibility

Responsible Mission Directorate:

Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)

Lead Center / Facility:

Stennis Space Center (SSC)

Responsible Program:

Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Tech Transfer



Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Tech Transfer

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Primary U.S. Work Locations	U.S. Work Locations	
Mississippi	Ohio	

Project Management

Program Director:

Jason L Kessler

Program Manager:

Carlos Torrez

Technology Areas

Primary:

- TX08 Sensors and Instruments
 - └ TX08.3 In-Situ
 - Instruments and Sensors
 - └ TX08.3.5
 - Electromagnetic Wave Based Sensors

